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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE TECH CENTER 1600/290

#9 A
6-13-01

In re PATENT APPLICATION of PUSHKO et al.

Appln. No.: 09/491,974

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed: January 27, 2000

Examiner: P. Brunovskis, P.

Title: DNA Vaccine Against Hantavirus Infection

May 31, 2001

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 1, 2001 in connection with the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Cancel claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15, 21 and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer.~~

Please amend claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 26 and 27 as follows.

1. (Amended) A composition of matter comprising an inert particle suitable for carrying a polynucleotide stably coated thereon; and a polynucleotide coated onto the particle, the polynucleotide comprising a promoter operative in the cells of a mammal and a protein coding region encoding an M gene segment protein comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, which sequence includes at least one antigenic determinant of a hantavirus protein.

7. (Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide comprises pWRG-SEQ-M.